

STORIES OF SPORTS
TOLD BY EXPERTS

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

UP TO DATE, NEWSY
AND WELL WRITTEN

CHAMPION ATHLETES IN COMPETITION AT GARDEN TO-NIGHT

DORRIS COLUMN

Joe Rogers Must Have Heard the "Little Tailor" Story—Cartmell Comes Back at Sheppard—Athletics' Big Year.

ONCE upon a time there was a little, near-sighted, bow-legged tailor, who sat cross-legged on his bench and sewed all day long. The tailor used to look out of his door and see knights riding by on their horses, covered with armor and carrying shields with their warlike feats emblazoned thereon.

The little tailor began to have an itching for fame. He grew more and more restless and spent more time looking out through the doorway.

At last one day came riding by a knight, forsooth, and on his shield was emblazoned a picture of a knight slaying a dragon. He was a stranger knight, yet all the people flocked and looked at his shield as he passed and talked for many hours thereafter of his marvelous courage in slaying the dragon.

The little tailor had just eaten his lunch and was still sitting cross-legged on his bench, watching a swarm of flies gathering about the fragments left over. "I suppose," muttered the little tailor to himself, "that he just picked up his sword and brought it down across the dragon's neck—crack—like that," and the tailor slapped his yard stick down on top of the flies. He counted the victims, nine flies killed at a blow.

"Ha!" exclaimed the tailor, "Nine at a blow!" Then he had an inspiration. Selling his tailor shop he bought a suit of armor and a great shield, across the face of which he painted a huge fist holding a sword, and the motto, "Nine at a blow." Then the tailor got a horse and rode as far away from home as he could go in a week's travel. There were no telegraph wires in those days. He was among strangers. Everybody marvelled at the prowess of a wonderful knight who had slain nine men with a single blow. No one would oppose him. All bowed to him. And his reputation grew until he found it was to him that it really wasn't nine he had killed at a blow, but ninety-nine.

But one unfortunate day the tailor left his shield behind, and strolling out for a walk, met a stranger, who challenged him to fight, and when the little tailor tried to crawl the stranger picked him up by the scruff of the neck and tossed him into a bog.

WHAT has the above tale to do with sports? Oh, nothing much—only—well, it's strange how history repeats itself.

I have just read a paragraph in an English sporting paper printed a day or two before the late Rogers-Hackenschmidt "wrestling match" in London. Mr. Rogers must have painted a few flattering inscriptions on his shield after coming across the water. The paragraph follows:

"Joe Rogers admits that the death of wrestling talent forced him to leave America and come to England. Conquering Jenkins and Gotch, he became champion of America. In Montreal he won two great wrestling tournaments, defeating all the other American giants with graceful ease. After that there were none left to contest the championship title with him, and hearing of Hackenschmidt and the other great wrestlers here he finally came to London to try his fortune. He is an Englishman by birth, an enormously powerful man and one who, moreover, owes his selection of a career to Hackenschmidt's own suggestion. Seeing Joe Rogers, who was then a gentleman amateur, wrestling for exercise in a club, Hackenschmidt was constrained to exclaim, 'If you took up wrestling seriously as a professional in the world could stand before you.'"

BACK to the shears, Mr. Rogers. As McCoy would say: "There's a blot on your 'scoutenon. You can't fool even the Englishmen now."

HERE is an interesting letter from Nat Cartmell, the Pennsylvania sprinter.

Mr. Robert Edgren, Sporting Editor, The Evening World, New York.

Dear Sir:—On your issue of Jan. 25 you quote Melvin Sheppard, of the Irish-American A. C., New York, to the effect that in the special race between Charles Seitz of the N. Y. A. C., and myself, at the Third Regiment games here last December, this contest had been "fixed" for me to win. Sheppard's words are qualified with his statement that before the race a University of Pennsylvania man had told him that it had been arranged beforehand that with the aid of a special starter for this race there were to be three false starts, and that on the third start the starter was to let me get off the mark ahead of Seitz. This Sheppard tells you was what actually occurred.

Mr. Sheppard has been correctly noted by you both his alleged information of a "fixed race" and his own account of it. He is absolutely correct, as can be verified by Seitz or any of the officials. When we went to the mark Seitz refused to race with the starter who had been officiating, and another man was secured. I made but one false start, but Seitz, at his own initiative, refused to have me set back. On the next attempt we both got away, and I won the race. These facts are so abso-

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P. MACDONALD WILL MAKE IT INTERESTING FOR FLANAGAN AND McGRATH.

COLLEGE TITLE WITH THIS RACE.

At the Fourteenth Annual Intercollegiate-Interscholastic Meet of the U. of P.

THREE races to determine the college championship of America will be one of the features of the meet held under the auspices of the

PAPKE HAS EARNED OVER \$15,000 IN SHORT CAREER

BILL PAPKE, the Western cyclone and present champion of the middleweight championship title, is certainly making plenty of money out of the fighting game. If success sticks to him he ought to come very near having a swell bankroll when he retires from the game.

Bill first began fighting Nov. 26, 1906. In the fifteen months that he has been a professional pugilist he has made \$15,000 out of his battles, including the wagers he won on himself. The small amount Papke ever received for boxing was \$10, which he got for defeating a twenty-pound boy in a professional fight. He has since then won three exhibitions and has got \$10 for each bout.

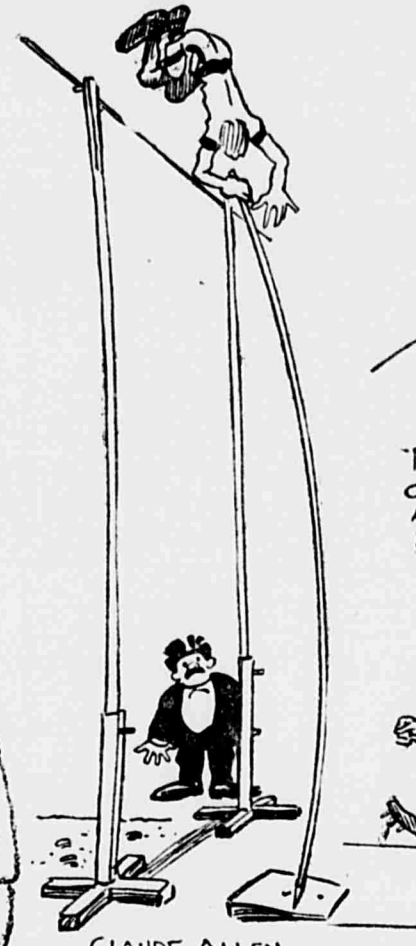
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